



# Mid-Iowa Community Action, Inc.

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## Story County Family Development Center

**Mid-Iowa Community Action, Inc.  
Report to Story County Board of Supervisors  
Story County Family Development Center**

**Data from 07/01/2021 through 3/31/2022**

- ❖ **\*Emergency Food** – *Individuals and families can shop in our choice pantry once per calendar month. Additionally, families can access food rescue (perishable items like bread, milk, eggs, sandwiches, etc.) on a daily basis if needed. Delivery services are available as well.*
  - Unduplicated numbers are 684 different households with 1,760 different individuals served in this time frame
  - 122 deliveries were made to households in Story County.
  - 60,887 pounds of food received in donations
- ❖ **Family Development** – *Family development services are provided in a one on one setting with families by a certified family development specialist. These programs have an emphasis on goal setting and connecting families to community resources.*
  - Family Development and Self-Sufficiency (FaDSS) Program: 35 families served, 276 home and quality visits
  - Early Childhood Family Development Programs (Head Start, BooSt ECI): Served 41 children in classroom and home based services, totaling 33 families. More than 600 home visits completed.
- ❖ **Energy Assistance** – *Eligible families receive a one-time credit towards their heating bill as well as winter moratorium protection on their accounts.*
  - 945 Low-Income Home Energy Assistance (LiHEAP) applications
- ❖ **Early Childhood Services** – *An infant toddler development specialist completes weekly home visits with families with children ages 0-3, and also can serve pregnant women. The ITDS works with the families to complete developmental assessments and engage the parent in developmentally appropriate activities with their child(ren).*
  - 30 children were served from 24 families. 274 home and quality visits were completed.
- ❖ **Women, Infants, Children (WIC)** – *a supplemental nutrition program for women who are pregnant or just had a baby, infants and children. WIC provides nutrition assessment and*

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*nutrition education/counseling from nutrition experts, breastfeeding education and support, referrals to other resources and food benefits on an EBT card called eWIC.*

- In FY21, 1,471 WIC participants were served in Story County
- ❖ **1<sup>st</sup> Five** – *The 1<sup>st</sup> Five program partners with local pediatric and family practice providers to enhance well-child visits for 0-5 year olds. 1<sup>st</sup> Five promotes developmental screening at well-child visits and has a referral system for children with identified developmental needs. 1<sup>st</sup> Five Support Specialists work with families to help them connect to early intervention services and other community resources to meet their family's needs. .*
  - 112 Story County referrals since July 1, 2021. Speech and Hearing evaluations were the highest need, followed by overall developmental concerns, pediatric evaluation for behavior and/or development, mental health needs and social stressors.
- ❖ **Child and Adolescent Health** – *The Child Health Program works in collaboration with our WIC clinic to ensure children are connected to a medical and dental home, are up to date on immunizations, receive their developmental screenings, periodic oral health screenings, fluoride varnish and education on healthy behaviors. In addition, the Child Health Nurse does Caregiver Depression Screenings for parents to assess their mental health and provides connections to local resources as needed. .*
  - 186 children have been seen for Child Health in Story County
  - 224 children have received Oral Health Services (this includes oral health screenings done at local Head Starts)
- ❖ **I-Smile @ School** – *Provides oral health screenings, sealants and fluoride varnish to 3<sup>rd</sup> graders at schools with 40% or higher free and reduced lunch rates*
  - 49 students received services at Mitchell and Meeker Elementary
  - 160 sealants were placed
- ❖ **Childcare Nurse Consultant (CCNC)** – *Provides support, consultation, training, and technical assistance to local child care providers to improve the health and safety of their early learning environment.*
  - Has provided 3 trainings to childcare providers
  - Over 200 TA calls and 30 site visits

\*Indicates ASSET funded program

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### Our work in action...

MICA's pantry creates ripples of impact in Story County. Once such ripple was made when a family of four recently moved from a large city in Illinois to Ames. They moved to join family members in Ames after a job loss and had no access to transportation or food. They got in touch with our AmeriCorps member, Mia. She was able to help them access our food pantry and was able to make an emergency food delivery to their home. She educated them about the services we could provide and let them know that they could visit our pantry every day for fresh food rescue items if they needed to, or to call ahead for food delivery. One parent was moved to tears knowing that they would not go without food, and shared that without the service they would have gone without for several days. In the city they lived in previously, there were no services like MICA's emergency food pantry, and they were very grateful for the assistance.

Two of our core values at MICA are partnership and innovation. We enjoy many fantastic partnerships in Story County, and we are always looking for new ways we can bring our services to community members. An example of this is a partnership with Youth and Shelter Services in Ames. We work with a staff member in their housing programs to create food packages for youth staying in their transitional housing. Once a month they come and pick up the food and delivery. This coordination and collaboration is another example of how we look for new ways to serve families.

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230 SE 16th Street , Ames, Iowa 50010 • Phone: 515-956-3333 • Fax: 515-956-3309